CBS MEMORANDUM

FROM: Richard Salant
TO: IRV DRASNIN
DATE: November 12, 1975

Sure--go ahead with the speaking engagement with the Kiwanis Club of Augusta, Maine.

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CBS MEMORANDUM

FROM: Irv Drasnin
TO: DICK SALANT
DATE: November 6, 1975

While I have so far turned down all invitations to speak publicly about "The Guns of Autumn" (except in those instances you know about), I would appreciate your counsel on one such invitation. It is from the Kiwanis Club of Augusta, Maine. The ground rules I have stipulated are that I would not engage in a debate on the issues of hunting or gun control, but I would be willing to discuss the broadcast within the context of how and why we make news documentaries. I also told them that I could not discuss any matters relating to pending litigation and that because there is such litigation pending that I didn't know if I could appear at all. I told them I would let them know by November 10. (Incidentally, the forum would not be shared -- I would be the only speaker.)

My feeling is that -- unlike invitations from anti-hunting or "pro-animal" groups -- this is one that should be considered. These are the very people who we should try to communicate with -- those who feel resentment and suspicion and who have very little understanding of "us," of how and why we do what we do. The Kiwanis spokesman who called said that as a result of "Guns," a Sportsman's Alliance has been formed in Maine and that the broadcast is a "very live" topic. I think I should talk to them and try to answer their questions but I defer that judgment to you. For the record, it would cost CBS my expenses and there is no fee involved.

Please advise.